



EPA Region 5 Records Ctr.

WW Engineering & Science

A Summit Company

5555 Glenwood Hills Parkway, SE• PO Box 874• Grand Rapids, MI 49588-0874 ARCS Program Management Office U.S. EPA Contract No. 68-W8-0079

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				Date:	January	18, 1994	
ttention:	Ms. Laura Ripley U.S. Environmental Protection Agency 77 West Jackson Blvd., HSRL-6J Chicago, IL 60604			Project No.: Client: Project Name: Site Name:	04015.1	04015.10	
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					Wiscons	in Steel	
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Theodore A. Lietzke, Site Project Manager

WISCONSIN STEEL WORKS SITE PROJECT # 04015.23 COMMENTS ON USACE PROPOSED MONITORING WELL LOCATIONS

During a meeting with the U.S. Army Corp. of Engineers (USACE - Buffalo), we were asked to comment on proposed monitoring well locations at the Wisconsin Steel Works Site (WSW) in Chicago, Illinois. The USACE requested that these comments be completed by mid-January, 1994, prior to their preparation of a Phase II Work Statement for contractor quotations.

Our technical review of the "Site Characterization Interim Report (9/93)" was completed on November 4, 1993. Among the chief concerns addressed within the comments were the following:

- Characterization/Investigation of LNAPLs via water table monitoring wells. (No water table wells have been completed on the site. Nonetheless, free-floating petroleum product appears to have been observed in several monitoring wells, including MW-5 and MW-19.)
- Investigation of the site-specific stratigraphy beneath the Wadsworth Till as well as sampling and analysis of these deeper geologic units possible DNAPL contamination (especially in the vicinity of the former Coke Plant Area II).

In response to the above comments, the USACE has proposed the installation of six Carmi Sand monitoring wells (all of which we assume will be water table wells) and eight deep monitoring wells set on the "top of rock" (assumed to mean above the bedrock), existing 50 to 80 feet below land surface based on the Interim Report.

The USACE's monitoring well proposal included a 4-page submittal with a brief rationale for each monitoring well location. In general, their proposal does address the two concerns listed above.

CHARACTERIZATION/INVESTIGATION OF LNAPLS

We concur with the location of shallow wells proposed as MW26A, MW27A, MW29A, and MW30A.

Proposed monitoring wells MW-31A and MW-32A appear to be located very close to previously-installed MW-5 and MW-19 where free-floating product is suspected. We recommend that in addition to MW31A a water table well be placed very near MW19 and a second well be placed to the east toward SB01. These additional wells will provide better local hydraulic information and will be useful in determining the potential extent of any LNAPL. Well MW32A should be installed within 25 feet of MW5 to assess the potential for LNAPL.

We also recommend that an additional water-table monitoring well, each, be installed in the vicinity of SB-17 in the slag area, MW-28 (a proposed deep monitoring well), MW-16B (unless the USACE can confirm that existing MW-16 is a water table monitoring well), and west of MW20 near the property boundary.

In brief, we recommend that a total of 12 water table monitoring wells be installed, rather than the proposed six monitoring wells.

INVESTIGATION BENEATH THE WADSWORTH TILL

We request that the SOP for the investigation of units beneath the Wadsworth Till be submitted for review before the investigation is authorized. Our chief concern regarding the sampling and analysis of these deeper geologic units is the possibility of cross-contamination via the bore-hole conduit. If contamination is observed in the surficial units, then double-casing of the deeper monitoring wells, or its equivalent, may be necessary to prevent such cross-contamination.

If ground water is not observed on "Top of Rock" then the deep wells should be set in any perched zone below the Wadsworth Till. The boring for the well should penetrate to bedrock to determine depth and the condition of the bedrock surface (lithology, fracture, etc.).

In brief, we concur with the USACE's proposed deep monitoring well locations, and we anticipate that eight such wells are sufficient for this stage of the investigation.